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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,707	05/23/2001	Steven Chen	10010402-1	9702

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

NELSON, FRED A ANN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3639

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/862,707

Applicant(s)

CHEN ET AL.

Examiner

Freda A. Nelson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to applicant's communication filed on December 14, 2004 wherein:

Claims 1-20 are currently pending;

Claims 1-20 are amended; and

No claims have been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

1. Claims 1, 10, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.
2. In claim 1, lines 5-6; claim 10, lines 5-6; and claim 14, lines 4-5, the examiner is unable to determine what the applicant is claiming by the claim language "the document is supplied by the user of the printing vending machine without content from the printing services device". There is not a sufficient description in the specification.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 3 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The examiner is unable to determine what the applicant means by the claim language "virtual storage device".

4. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 12 is incomplete.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. Claims 1-6, 8-11, and 13-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kolls (Patent Number 6,604,087).

In claim 1, Kolls discloses examples of the marketing transaction data can include sale amount, finish date, finish time, total copies, total fax pages sent locally, total fax pages long distance, total fax pages sent internationally, and total fax pages received; and additional marketing transaction data can include total PC 630 general usage time, PC 630 applications utilized/usage time, PC 630 online usage (site contact specific, service specific, time used per site), total printed output count from a plurality of printers, and total scans made into the PC 630; and additional marketing data can include electronic commerce purchases, smart card re-valued totals, laptop usage, data port usage, and/or other marketing/transaction measurement/indicator data (col. 28, lines 53-67). Kolls further disclose that upon "approval" processing in block 1112 data communicates between the universal server, system 500 containing the smart card, and any other device (as required) on network 600 to effectuate the transfer of funds (money/credit/units), and subsequent transaction processing (billing "settling" as required); the transaction is then completed, prompting the users to facilitate any final actions as may be required; and if the customer desires a receipt of the transaction just completed, a receipt can be printed by any printer on network 600 (col. 30, lines 46-55).

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In claims 2-3 and 20, Kolls discloses that vending equipment can include vending access to the Internet, business application software, e-commerce, and e-business in a hotel room, copiers, phones, facsimile machines, printers, data-ports, laptop print stations, notebook computers, palmtop computers (PALM PILOT), microfiche devices, projectors, scanners, cameras, modems, communication access, cellular phones, personal data assistants (PDA's), pagers, vending machines, personal computers (PC), PC terminals (NET PC), and network computers (NC)(abstract). Kolls further disclose that vending equipment can be networked to each other through a first network, programmable and accessible by a PC, server, point of sale (POS) system, property or management information system (PMS/MIS), and networked to a second network (abstract). Kolls still further discloses that print data can be advertisement print data, transaction summary print data, receipt print data, vending machine print data, such as from a PC 630, or other print data (col. 34, lines 1-4).

In claims 4-5, 13, and 17, Kolls discloses that in step 20 the system accepts user input (data and/or monetary, disclosed herein as PRE-VEND TRANSACTION DATA (i.e. "AUTHORIZATION")), and then in step 30, the system authenticates or verifies the user's input to determine if VENDING MACHINE USAGE is "authorized" (col. 4, lines 64 through col. 5, line 3). Kolls further disclose that interconnected with microcontroller 532 is a plurality of input devices including a voice and/or handwriting capture and recognition means 534, a bar code reader 536, a fingerprint/palm/hand reader biometric means 538, and a keypad 540 (col. 11, lines 60-64). Kolls still further discloses that a keypad 540 can be a touch screen and a voice and/or handwriting capture and recognition means 534 can be a touch screen (col. 12, lines 8-10).

In claim 6, 8-9, and 18-19, Kolls discloses that in step 50, the system effectuates the delivery, monitoring, and dispensing of the product, and/or service (col. 5, lines 3-5). Kolls further discloses that in an exemplary embodiment, the solenoid control means 528 is responsive to a system 500 detecting an "out-of-supply" condition of a vending machine and opening a supply door/drawer to allow a customer to restock the vending machines. Supplies can include paper, ink and toner for a copier, printer, fax, or PC (col. 11, lines 41-46 and FIG. 4B).

In claims 10-11 and 15, Kolls discloses examples of the marketing transaction data can include sale amount, finish date, finish time, total copies, total fax pages sent locally, total fax pages long distance, total fax pages sent internationally, and total fax pages received; and additional marketing transaction data can include total PC 630 general usage time, PC 630 applications utilized/usage time, PC 630 online usage (site contact specific, service specific, time used per site), total printed output count from a plurality of printers, and total scans made into the PC 630; and additional marketing data can include electronic commerce purchases, smart card re-valued totals, laptop usage, data port usage, and/or other marketing/transaction measurement/indicator data (col. 28, lines 53-67). Kolls further disclose that upon "approval" processing in block

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1112 data communicates between the universal server, system 500 containing the smart card, and any other device (as required) on network 600 to effectuate the transfer of funds (money/credit/units), and subsequent transaction processing (billing "settling" as required); the transaction is then completed, prompting the users to facilitate any final actions as may be required; and if the customer desires a receipt of the transaction just completed, a receipt can be printed by any printer on network 600 (col. 30, lines 46-55). Kolls still further discloses that interconnected with microcontroller 532 is a personal computer memory card industry association (PCMCIA) interface 542. Industry standard PCMCIA compliant devices can be plugged into the PCMCIA interface 542 and data communicate with microcontroller 532 wherein a hand-held device, notebook computer, laptop/palmtop computer, modem or other data communication means or other data processing equipment (generally referred to as other data processing equipment) can by way of PCMCIA interface 542 access network 600 (col. 12, lines 15-28).

In claim 14, Kolls discloses examples of the marketing transaction data can include sale amount, finish date, finish time, total copies, total fax pages sent locally, total fax pages long distance, total fax pages sent internationally, and total fax pages received; and additional marketing transaction data can include total PC 630 general usage time, PC 630 applications utilized/usage time, PC 630 online usage (site contact specific, service specific, time used per site), total printed output count from a plurality of printers, and total scans made into the PC 630; and additional marketing data can include electronic commerce purchases, smart card re-valued totals, laptop usage, data port usage, and/or other marketing/transaction measurement/indicator data (col. 28, lines 53-67). Kolls further disclose that upon "approval" processing in block 1112 data communicates between the universal server, system 500 containing the smart card, and any other device (as required) on network 600 to effectuate the transfer of funds (money/credit/units), and subsequent transaction processing (billing "settling" as required); the transaction is then completed, prompting the users to facilitate any final actions as may be required; and if the customer desires a receipt of the transaction just completed, a receipt can be printed by any printer on network 600 (col. 30, lines 46-55).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 7, 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kolls (Patent Number 6,604, 087).

In claim 7, Kolls does not disclose a second document input element for receiving the electronic data that represents the document to be printed from a portable media device. However, it is old and well known in the computer art that data can be transferred between a Palmtop computer and a desktop. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Kolls to include the second document input element to get the benefit of transferring data from the portable media device to a computer or printer in order to view and print the data in its readable format.

In claim 12, Kolls does not disclose a second document input means for receiving the electronic data that represents the document to be printed from a portable media device. However, it is old and well known in the computer art that data can be transferred between a Palmtop computer and a desktop. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Kolls to include the second document input element to get the benefit of transferring data from the portable media device to a computer or printer in order to view and print the data in its readable format.

In claim 16, Kolls does not disclose a retrieving the electronic data representing the document to be printed from a portable media device. However, it is old and well known in the computer art that data can be transferred between a Palmtop computer and a desktop. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the invention of Kolls to include the feature of retrieving the electronic data representing the document in order to view and print the data in its readable format.

Conclusion

6. The examiner has cited prior art of interest, for example:

1) Kao et al. (Patent Number 5,901,067), which discloses a system for interactively selecting and activating groups of electrically powered devices.

2) Struble (US PG Pub. 2002/0138671), which discloses a system and method for locating and using a peripheral device.

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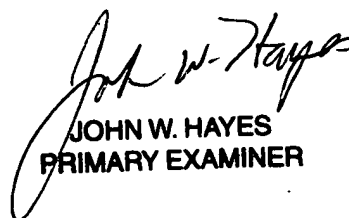
3) Wang (Patent Number 6,535,791), which discloses an electronic information vending machine and method.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Freda A. Nelson whose telephone number is (571) 272-7076. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FAN 07/20/2005



JOHN W. HAYES
PRIMARY EXAMINER